Office of Communications • Mark Dallas Loeffler, Director 1700 N. Congress Ave. • Austin, TX 78701-1495 • 512-463-5339 • FAX: 512-475-1415

MEDIA ADVISORY

Treasures of Texas liberty on rare display at Alamo Friday

Celebrate Texas' Declaration of Independence by seeing rare 1836 copy

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Jim Suydam

512-463-2716 512-417-5382

jim.suydam@glo.texas.gov

AUSTIN — An authentic Texas treasure will be put on rare public display Friday at the Alamo in celebration of Texas Independence Day.

Samuel Maverick's personal copy of the 1836 Declaration of Texas Independence - one of just 13 original copies - will be put on public display from 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Friday.

"This was a working copy - a document handled and used by patriots at the Texas Constitutional Convention," said Texas Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson. "Being able to see it now connects you to those great men in a way that brings our shared history to life."

At 1 p.m., the Daughters of the Republic of Texas will recognize the anniversary with a ceremony in front of the Alamo Shrine. After the ceremony, the Daughters of the Republic of Texas Library will open for a brief public showcase.

"When Maverick, a delegate representing Bexar, arrived at Washington-on-the-Brazos in March of 1836, the handwritten original had already been signed by most of the other delegates and sent to the printer to be copied," said Madge Thornall Roberts, Daughters of the Republic of Texas Library Committee Chairwoman and President Sam Houston's great-great-granddaughter. "Maverick signed the original document but arrived too late to have his signature included on the printed versions. He signed his copy and added the names of the other late arrivals, as well as comments to prove that they had actually signed the original document."

The Maverick document will be part of an exhibit, but will only be available for a brief time. While the Daughters of the Republic of Texas Library is open to the public for research, browsing is prohibited. Friday's display will be an exception to that rule.

WHO: Daughters of the Republic of Texas Library

WHAT: Rare display of Sam Maverick's 1836 Texas Declaration of Independence

WHEN: 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Friday, March 2

WHERE: The Alamo, 300 Alamo Plaza, San Antonio, TX 78205

WHY: To celebrate Texas Independence Day

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